

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant submits herewith a proposed replacement drawing sheet showing a revised Fig. 25. A Replacement Sheet including revised Fig. 25 is included as an attachment, as is an Annotated Sheet showing in detail the change made.

REMARKS

Drawings

FIG. 25 is amended to correct an informality.

Claims 5, 14 and 21 is amended to correct certain informalities.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §103

Claims 1-17 and 19-26 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over IEEE standard 1596.4-1996 (IEEE), filed as prior art. Applicant traverses the rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to include limitations of claim 4. Amended claim 1 recites a first redrive circuit to redrive signal from a first to a second point to point link; second redrive circuit to redrive signal from a third to a forth point to point link; and a data accumulator coupled between the first redrive circuit and the memory device. In contrast, each slave in the Ramlink of IEEE standard has only one input link and one output link. Section 1.5.1, first paragraph, page 4. Thus, the memory modules disclosed in the RamLink reference each have a single input and a single output, and therefore, could not accommodate four links as recited in claim 1. For at least this reason, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 1 or any of the claims that depend from claim 1.

Similarly, claim 10 has been amended to include similar limitations from claim 13 and claim 22 has been amended to include similar limitations from claim 25. For at least the reasons discussed above, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to amended independent claims 10, 22 or any of the claims that depend from claims 10 and 22.

Claim 15 has been amended to include limitations of claim 20. Amended claim 15 recites a memory agent having first and second redrive circuits and a data accumulator coupled to the first redrive circuit. For reasons discussed above, IEEE standard teaches redriving a single signal from a first to a second point-to-point link and hence the IEEE standard lacks a second redrive circuit. For at least this reason, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been established with respect to claim 15 or any of the claims that depend from claim 15.

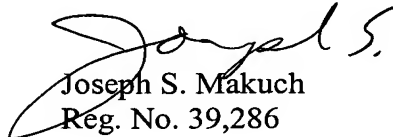
Conclusion

Applicant requests reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (503) 222-3613 if it appears that an interview would be helpful in advancing the case.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

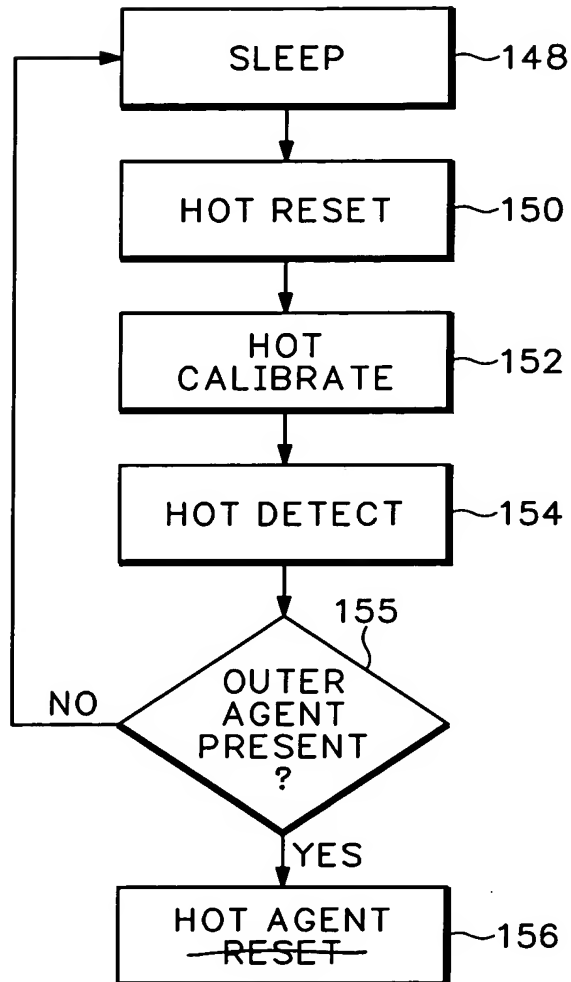


FIG.25

present